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NOTES AND NEWS.

George William Greenwood has been appointed professor of mathematics at Roanoke College, Salem, Va. S.

The University of Washington, Seattle, announces the establishment of five teaching fellowships in mathematics, each yielding annual stipends from $400 to $500. Fellowships are open to graduate students only.

The twenty-first regular meeting of the Chicago Section of the American Mathematical Society will be held at The University of Chicago, Saturday, March 30, 1907. Abstracts of papers to be presented at this meeting should be in the hands of the Secretary not later than March 15. S.

"Introduction to Infinitesimal Analysis" is a new book from the press of John Wiley and Sons, by Oswald Veblen and N. J. Lennes. It is a valuable contribution to the literature available in English for the student of Advanced Calculus. It will be reviewed in a later issue of the MONTHLY. S.

It will be of interest to present readers of the MONTHLY to know that Professor Leonard E. Dickson, the retiring editor, contributed the first mathematical paper to these columns, Vol. I, No. 1, pp. 7-11, January, 1894. Since that time his interest has been continuous and his contributions numerous. S.

A preliminary meeting, to organize a Rochester, N. Y., Section of the Association of Teachers of Mathematics in the Middle States and Maryland, was held on February 23. This is in line with the rapidly increasing interest throughout the country in the question of bettering the teaching of mathematics, and it is most gratifying to see both colleges and secondary schools co-operating in this good cause. S.

At the last meeting of the Mathematics Section of the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers, an important report on the Teaching of Geometry was presented by a committee of five who had been at work on the subject during the preceding year. This report is now in press, and may be had by enclosing a two cent stamp to the Secretary, Miss Mabel Sykes, 438 57th Street, Chicago, Ill. S.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

The Teaching of Mathematics in the Elementary and the Secondary Schools. By J. W. A. Young, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of the Pedagogy of Mathematics in The University of Chicago. 8vo Cloth, xviii+350 pages. Price, $1.50.

This volume constitutes a very valuable addition to the Pedagogical Literature of Mathematics. The book is just from the press, and we have had time to read only the first three chapters and make a cursory examination of the remainder of the work. We have found the book so interesting and suggestive that we hasten to call the attention of our readers to it. The author tells of conditions as they are and states facts that are easily verified by investigation and experience. Too many works on general pedagogy describe conditions that are purely Utopian and that can never be realized so long as there are human beings to be educated. Thus, the author says, p. 11, "Some pupils no doubt regard the whole process of education (or any particular subject) as a set of tasks intended in some undefined way for the gratification of others, and consider that their own best interests lie in evading as far as possible the execution of these tasks." What teachers are there that have not observed this fact? Yet there are many so called teachers that refuse to acknowledge it. What teacher has not observed that most of the schools and colleges have just two classes of students? First, those who try to get as much out of their work as they can, and second, those who try to get out of as much of their work as they can. It is useless to try to write text books suitable for the latter class. Books composed of fly leaves would be the most satisfactory to them. The author also calls attention to the very patent fact that bad results in the teaching of mathematics are often due to the lack of special preparation on the part of the teacher. Thus, he says, p. 3, "It is even not unknown that classes in mathematics have been confided to teachers of other subjects, having neither special preparation for teaching mathematics nor experience in it, for no other reason than that they had a vacant period." It is a fact that teachers are too often selected without the slightest reference to their fitness or preparation for their work. This is true not only in mathematics but in other subjects as well.

The work contains the following fifteen chapters: The Study of the Pedagogy of Mathematics; The Purpose and Value of the Study of Mathematics in Primary and Secondary Schools; Methods and Modes; The Heuristic Method; The Individual Mode; The Perry Movement,—The Laboratory Method; Miscellaneous Points of Method and Mode; Preparation of Teachers,—Mathematical Clubs; The Material Equipment; The Curriculum in Mathematics; Definitions and Axioms; The Teaching of Arithmetic; The Teaching of Geometry; The Teaching of Algebra; Limits.

The true teacher of elementary mathematics will read this book with interest and profit. B. F. F.

Self Propelled Vehicles. A Practical Treatise on the Theory, Construction, Operation, Care, and Management of All Forms of Automobiles. By James E. Homans, A. M. 8vo Cloth, 598 pages. New York: Theo. Audel & Co.

This is the sixth edition of a work of great value to all interested in the automobile. It also contains much information of great value to the practical mechanic. B. F. F.

The Foundations of Higher Arithmetic. By B. F. Fisk, M. S., Instructor in Senior Arithmetic in the Austin High School. 8vo Cloth, vi+203 pages. New York: Silver, Burdett & Co.

This book is a step in the right direction of the teaching of the subject. The solutions are arranged in order, and are clear and concise. B. F. F.

The Elements of Geometry. By Walter N. Bush, Principal of the Polytechnic High School, San Francisco, and John B. Clarke, Department of Mathematics, Polytechnic High School, San Francisco. 8vo Cloth, x+355 pages. New York: Silver, Burdett & Co.

The treatment of Geometry in this book is along the line usually followed in American works. A large collection of originals are scattered throughout the book. B. F. F.